

31st AUGUST

Martyrs' Blood must not go in vain

The historic Martyrs' Day on 31st August was observed in West Bengal with marked contrast. Our Party SUCI besides paying homage to the martyrs and holding a meeting at Saheed Minar Maidan organised mass violation of law programme in all the district and sub-divisional head quarters of West Bengal on the day to carry forward the struggle for which the martyrs laid down their lives twenty years back. But the ministers and leaders of CPI(M) and other parties of the "Left Front", as a part of routine programme, came heavily guarded with police to place wreaths at the Martyrs' Column on the one hand while on the other directed the police to bring down savage repression on the people participating in the mass violation programme.

Twenty years back all these parties in the "Left Front" running the government in the state today, jointly with our party organised the Food Movement of the people which the then Congress Government drowned in streams of blood with unprecedented police brutalities taking a toll of eighty lives according to their own admission. But as soon as their parliamentary ambition has been fulfilled and they have been inducted to government these parties are responding to every legitimate movements of the people with same repressive measures and savagery. But the goal and aspiration of the toiling people for which the martyrs dedicated their lives still remain unfulfilled.

The toiling people are

now facing far more grueling experiences with ever mounting burden of capitalist exploitation. They see with their great enthusiasm that while all these parties have failed them it is SUCI that is standing by their side, defending their cause and upholding the banner of struggle and leftism.

For the first time they are getting organised on a correct revolutionary line of anti-capitalist socialist revolution under the leadership of SUCI with a clear political objective of advancing their preparations for ultimate emancipation from capitalist exploitation.

These two distinctly different lines, one, the revolutionary line of advancing the struggle of the people and the other, anti-revolutionary compromising line of defending

the present exploitative capitalist system came once more in bold relief on 31st August this year.

We are here giving in a nutshell the report about the meeting held at Saheed Minar Maidan on the day at the call of Calcutta District Committee of our party. It was a big gathering of over fifty thousand people. Workers and other sections of the toiling people of the city and suburbs came in big processions. DYU Music Squad presented a few mass songs and the songs composed on Comrade Shibdas Ghosh and on the martyrs of 31st August. The meeting was presided over by Comrade Ashutosh Banerjee, member of the West Bengal State Secretariat.

Comrade Ranajit Dhar member of the State Secretariat, West Bengal moved the resolution, which set the task before the people: "While recalling with deep respect the exemplary sacrifice and indomitable fighting zeal of the people in the face of the barbaric oppression let loose by the Congress Government this meeting cannot but note that the dream and aspiration of the martyrs for freedom from all sorts

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NAMBOODIRIPAD'S REPLY TO OUR PROPOSAL

[Comrade Nihar Mukherjee General Secretary of our Party, SUCI, addressed a letter dated 30th August, 1979 to the left and democratic parties proposing formation of Left and Democratic Front, as the instrument of struggle, which we published in our last issue. We give below the full text of the reply from E. M. S. Namboodiripad, General Secretary of the CPI(M). Emphasis added —Ed. Board. P. Era.]

New Delhi, 1. 9. 79.

Dear Comrade,

I have received your letter of August 30th. This letter as well as the other public pronouncements of your party show that there is a basic difference between your Party and ours on the content of the unity of Left and Democratic forces, or rather on the question "against whom and together with whom" the front is to be formed. We are of the view that the left parties should strive to forge the unity not only among themselves and the other radical democratic parties but **cooperate with such anti-authoritarian and anti-communal bourgeois parties as the Janata (S), the Congress, the CFD, etc.**

Yours Comradely,

Sd/- E. M. S. Namboodiripad



Defying
torrential rain
mammoth
protest
demonstration
of the toiling
people of
Orissa
proceeding
towards the
Secretariat
Buildings,
Bhubaneswar

(Report on
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Country Recalls the great teachings of COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

In this issue, we publish the speech delivered by Comrade Ashutosh Banerjee, a member of the West Bengal State Committee of our party, in the Memorial Meeting that was held in Calcutta on 5th August, the day of paying respectful homage in a solemn and dignified manner to the memory of our great beloved leader, teacher, guide, the founder General Secretary of our party Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat.

Reports of such Memorial meetings are daily pouring in from different corners of the country. We have already covered in our issue of 15th August, such a meeting held on the occasion in Delhi. Here we publish some of the other reports, which for want of space could not be published earlier.

At the very outset, while explaining the significance of the observance of 5th August, Comrade Banerjee observed that to the revolutionaries these occasions were not formal annual rituals.

It was necessary to practise the thoughts and teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh to correctly analyse the socio-political, economic aspects of life and society and develop the revolutionary struggle in the country in the correct track. But since thought could not exist without the thinker, none could correctly grasp the thoughts and teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh without remembering the revolutionary life and struggle of this great leader of the proletariat.

So, on this very day to correctly grasp and apply the thoughts and teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one must recall the various aspects of the life and struggles of this great revolutionary.

Then, in his long speech that continued for more than an hour, Comrade Banerjee examined the different aspects of the national political scene on the anvil of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the founder General Secretary, leader and teacher of our party.

While drawing the attention of the meeting to the recent political change at the Centre, Comrade Banerjee commented that the replacement of the Janata Government headed by Mr. Morarji

Desai by a so-called qualification government formed by the alliance of the Congress (s) with a number of defectors from the erstwhile ruling Janata Party, headed by Mr. Charan Singh who himself defected to get the prize post of Prime Ministership and with the support of the Congress (I) was no doubt a significant political development.

This reflected a serious crisis and instability that the capitalist system was facing with. In the face of this acute all out crisis the bourgeois parties were disintegrating into splinter parties and groups and after the recent disintegration of the Janata Party, the Congress being already divided there was not a single party who could claim to be an all India Party of the bourgeoisie. Previously, the bourgeoisie did never face such a predicament to which they were pushed at the moment by their inner contradiction and conflict. To what extent this inner conflict and contradiction penetrated the different levels of the administration and state machinery was glaringly revealed during the recent agitations of the police and para-military forces, when the authorities took the help of the CRP and BSF to suppress the agitation of the police men and when the latter also burst into agitation the army was called in to suppress it.

One must not however, Comrade Banerjee added, consider this instability,

this acute crisis as accidental or a temporary phenomenon. Because, in the present third general crisis through which the moribund world capitalism was passing, the Indian capitalism, deeply engulfed in its own particular economic crisis had no way out to escape from such a crisis-ridden state. But what was a matter of grave concern, Comrade Banerjee added, was the absence of a viable genuine left and democratic alternative which with the object of defending the cause of the toiling people could take advantage of such a situation and as a prelude to the radical transformation of the state and society, develop mighty left and democratic movement of the people throughout the entire country. The need of the hour was such a front of left and democratic forces.

But, instead of trying to forge such a unity, thereby upholding a genuine left line, the big left parties like the CPI and CPI(M), Comrade Banerjee observed, were being witnessed to be engaged in a vicious game of bourgeois power politics. Once they were found to be veering round the ruling party, maintaining a friendly relation with it. But no sooner than they realised that its days in power were numbered, they lost no time to withdraw their support from the ruling party and lent it to the new prospective bourgeois party in the field. Like bourgeois forces they too were engaged in the bourgeois game of helping this or that bourgeois party to power.

To defend the nasty political game in which they were involved, they tried to pose as if they were taking advantage of the contradiction existing within the bourgeoisie. But, how could one take the advantage of the situation and that too with what object, when there was no left and democratic alternative in the country

with a programme of action for building up people's struggle to protect their cause? Without attempting to build up any such alternative, they, in the name of utilising the contradiction existing within the bourgeoisie, in reality, were giving a lease of life to the moribund capitalist system. The bourgeois parties in their recent bid to come to power manifested worst type of opportunism. Even a section of the bourgeois leaders and bourgeois press admitted that. This was of course not at all unusual on their part. But, it was really astounding that like the bourgeois parties, the CPI, CPI(M) too by their naked opportunistic drives and moves had manifested the same perverse morals and ethics. Long before, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh while stressing the necessity of placing politics on the edifice of ethics and culture, observed that: politics devoid of morals and ethics becomes a devil's workshop. The unethical moves and opportunistic drives of all these political parties for realising some narrow gains reminds us of that historic comment of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

While analysing particularly the role of the CPI(M) in the recent political developments, Comrade Banerjee reminded the meeting that it was this CPI(M) which before the last Lok Sabha poll observed that most of the parties that comprised the Janata Party were voicing their opposition to the then ruling Congress from an extreme rightist point of view. They also refused to join in the Bihar movement on the plea of rightist participation in the said movement.

But, no sooner than they realised that the Janata Party, being backed by the ruling class and money bag had the potentiality of appearing as their national alternative to the then ruling Congress, they made a somersault in their political stand entered into electoral alliance with the Janata Party, solely to gather

some fruits of the bourgeois parliamentary politics with the backing of the bourgeoisie, bourgeois press and propaganda machinery and money bag. Necessarily their characterisation of the Janata Party took a change in approach and they considered it to be the main force to fight against authoritarianism and labelled it a 'friendly' party.

But, again when they became certain of the fact that the Morarji government would not last long and that Mr. Charan Singh was going to head a coalition ministry in its place, they decided to support the no confidence motion against the former with the object of helping Mr. Charan Singh to power. They discovered a queer logic in their defence. They tried to argue that as soon as the BLD and a group of the socialists left the Janata party, the government had to become dependent on the communal force like Jan Sangh for its existence. Now since they could not allow such a government to continue, they decided to support the no confidence motion against the said regime. This would have no doubt appeared reasonable and justified had they raised this issue and organised movement against the Janata government throughout the country, long before, because since the formation of the Janata party Jansangh which was a major partner of the party was playing a key role in its leadership along with the Congress (O) and BLD. But, let alone speaking of organising any movement they did not even raise the issue then. And even afterwards, when following the isolation of BLD within the Janata party, the leadership became vested in Jansangh CFD and Congress (O) they did not raise the question. But later when they became confident of the fact that the government would be toppled and replaced by a new one, they, one fine morning

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This is how the 'Left Front' repay the debt of blood of the martyrs!

After the historic movement of mass violation of law on 15th June last in protest against price-rise, power crisis and the anti-people educational and language policy of the Left Front Government the West Bengal State Committee, SUCI took up a programme of mass violation of law in all the districts on 31st August last. The 'Left Front' Government of the State let loose such a reign of terror and police atrocity came down so heavily upon the peaceful marchers that it reminds of the brutality perpetrated by the Congress Government on the food movement of 1959.

When it is incumbent on a genuine left Government to curb and control police and bureaucracy on the one hand and to patronise and encourage legitimate democratic mass movement on the other then the 'Left Front' Government of West Bengal is bringing heavy attack, upon all the democratic movements of the people.

Below is given the district-wise account of the

brutal police torture and various other heinous tactics adopted by the Government:

SURI (Birbhum)

Comrade Prativa Mukherjee, Secretary, Birbhum District Committee, SUCI, led civil disobedience marchers, numbering more than 8,000 in Suri, Birbhum. The ten to twelve deep police barricades stood in readiness suddenly pounced upon the marchers and perpetrated unprecedented savageries. The government imposed Sec. 144 Cr. P.C. from the preceding day and all the 14 O.C.s of the district were present with their forces practically closing down their respective police stations. Indiscriminate lathi-charge was resorted to by police to disperse the procession as a result of which more than hundred volunteers were severely injured. The central figure of these savageries was one Aloke Sanyal, a wireless operator of police force, the local Secretary of CPI(M) led

police Association, who in plain clothes was seen directing the whole operation. Poet Kumud Kinkar, editor, 'Chandidas' a magazine of Birbhum while covering the news got severe injury in his eye losing eyesight completely. A press photographer got severe beatings from police and his camera was snatched. Police entered into PWD office and severely lathi charged. Four employees got severe injuries and had to be hospitalised.

DIAMOND HARBOUR (South 24 Parganas)

Comrade Renupada Halder, M. L. A. led a procession of more than 8,000 marchers in Diamond Harbour, South 24-Parganas. Police cordoned off the marchers within the jail maidan fenced with barbed wire. On the plea of taking rolls of those courting arrest when the marchers were thus detained in a space blocked on all sides, suddenly tear-gas shells were burst in rapid succession. Along with this,

soda water bottles, acid bulbs etc. were hurled at them. Police then started lathi charging them savagely. In all these savageries, the auxiliaries, the CPI(M) rowdies took active role, brickbats were thrown at the procession from the house top of a local CPI(M) leader. The brutality knew no bounds. Police, said to have been 'transformed' by 'Left Front', kicked at the abdomen of a 17 year old lady volunteer and hit savagely at the head of a 70 year old man. Police barbarity touched a new record when it entered into the medical camp set up for giving first-aid and hit with lathis those already groaning with severe injuries.

BERHAMPUR (Murshidabad)

The entire town wore the look of a battlefield. It was cordoned off by posting police pickets at every entry point, road junction, rail stations, ferry stations etc. About 8,000 volunteers were arrested. Despite all attempts by police and roughs mobilised

by 'Left Front' partners, to block the entry of civil disobedience marchers, 6,000 of them entered and courted arrest led by Comrade Prangour Basak, District Secretary of our Party.

BURDWAN

About one thousand volunteers took part in civil disobedience programme. Police brought down on them brutal attack. One volunteer became senseless after severe lathi charge. Women police were used for brutal attack on women volunteers.

More than 55 thousand common people took part in the mass civil disobedience movement.

With a view to continuing and bringing this movement to a newer height the State Committee of the Party has adopted a programme of forming people's Committees everywhere in the State and recruiting volunteers for the movement.

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(Contd. from page 2) discovered its dependence on the communal force for its existence and decided to support the no-trust move. Was it not therefore a vain bid to assign credibility to their decision of supporting Charan Singh? Was it not sheer opportunism? —Comrade Banerjee asked. Meanwhile however, Comrade Banerjee added, the situation took a new turn, and Mrs. Gandhi and her party Congress (I) decided to support Mr. Charan Singh to power. And as soon Mrs. Gandhi entered the arena, they publicly posed an anti-Indira Gandhi, anti-Congress (I) stance by stating that they would not support the Charan Singh ministry and remain

neutral, as it was backed by Mrs. Gandhi and her party. But neutrality, we knew in no sense could be absolute and in any context whatsoever it was bound to go in favour of this or that particular party. In the present context the CPI(M)'s so-called neutrality would in effect go in support of Mr. Charan Singh ministry and by this move, they, in reality assured a helping hand to Mrs. Gandhi and her party whose support to Mr. Charan Singh was a calculated design to stage a come back to power.

In fact their real motive, Comrade Banerjee added, was to anyhow secure some births in the bourgeois parliamentary politics and to achieve that object, they were ready

to sacrifice even that minimum political scruple which one might expect of the out and out corrupt and reactionary Indian bourgeoisie. Of course what better could one expect from these forces of compromise—these forces of social democatism which in reality were, as Comrade Shibdas Ghosh time and again observed, the last prop of capitalism-fascism in the existing era.

That there was no difference between the CPI(M) and the marked bourgeois parties like the Janata and Congress from the point of basic class-position was also clear from their attitude towards the police. During the recent agitation of the police force, just like the Janata and Congress, which in conformity with their class character showed eagerness to meet the

demands of the different penal organs of the state, the CPI(M) too manifested much haste and promptness to meet the demands of the police force. This did not mean, Comrade Banerjee made it clear, that the demands of the policemen were unjustified, nor did it mean that such eagerness on the part of the authority was uncalled for. On the contrary, any sensible man would demand such promptness on the part of the government in the question of meeting the legitimate demands of any section of the people. But, it was our experience that regarding the people's demand and their movement, the CPI(M) led governments were found to hold an attitude contrary to that they reflected towards the demands of the police force. Time and again the people

witnessed them to take recourse to all repressive measures including naked police onslaught to suppress the legitimate movements which different sections of the people launched for realising their legitimate demands.

The naked police atrocity perpetrated on the peaceful civil-disobedience volunteers on the last 15th June, in Calcutta, the different repressive ways and means that they were habitually adopting to nip in the bud the legitimate movement of the workers, and other sections of the toiling masses would bear ample evidences to the fact that from the point of class character one would fail to distinguish between the CPI(M) and the marked bourgeois parties like the Janata and Congress.

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SIGNIFICANCE OF 31st AUGUST

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of exploitation are yet to be fulfilled. This meeting is of the opinion that the only way to pay tribute to the martyrs is to shoulder the responsibility of holding aloft the banner of leftism by strengthening the legitimate democratic mass movement of the people through all of our might and pave the way for the anti-capitalist socialist revolution by isolating the opportunist social democratic leadership responsible for the failure of that historic movement and establishing the real revolutionary leadership over the mass movement." At the outset of his long analytical speech Comrade Ranajit Dhar reminded the people that for a revolutionary party observance of Martyrs' Day was not a mere formality. The martyrs laid down their lives to achieve freedom from hunger, destitution and a subhuman existence but has those been yet fulfilled? Let alone fulfillment of their demands, has not the condition of existence deteriorated further? The crisis ridden moribund capitalism that is creating all the problems in people's life is enmeshed in still more deeper crisis, the ever mounting burden of which is shifted on to the shoulders of the people

by the bourgeoisie. The real solution to all these problems cannot be found by keeping alive this system but by replacing through revolution with a true socialist society free from all sorts of exploitation. Herein lies the logical culmination of the struggle for which the martyrs of 1959 laid down their lives. And only by fulfilling this task we can pay real homage to the martyrs.

Comrade Dhar then posed the question, why inspite of so many glorious movements and sacrifices of the people we could not advance towards this political goal and objective? Reminding the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Comrade Dhar said that while our party upholding the revolutionary line strove hard to lead and conduct those movements as precursor to revolutionary struggle of the masses the social democratic parties who were in the actual leadership of those movements confined those movements within the reformist course solely to reap dividends in parliamentary politics. So you see the struggle between these two distinctly different lines was all through in the mass movements. This basic difference in political lines got its expression not only in two distinctly different goals and objec-



A volunteer, rolling in the ground being mercilessly beaten by Police at Diamond Harbour

tives but also in concrete demands and slogans. That is why while our party always insisted on introduction of all out state trading including both wholesale and retail trade in food grains and other essential commodities to provide minimum relief to the people from speculative price manipulation by the jotedars and blackmarket-eers CPI, CPI(M) always opposed and even now are opposing this just proposal. Can it be anything other than defending the vested interest? Then again as to the style and conduction of movement. Our party has been persistently calling on the people to deve-

lop people's committees from lowest village level to national level as instruments of that protracted struggle. Only by organising these people's committees with adequate political consciousness, higher ethical and moral standard and capability of leadership the toiling people can give a concrete shape to their political power that can overthrow this exploitative capitalist state machinery. The revisionists and the compromising forces opposed this slogan because they wanted to exploit these movements for parliamentary careerism. That is why people could not give concrete shape of their own organisations and instruments of struggle.

Continuing Comrade Ranajit Dhar said, so it is evident that social democratic parties, the forces of compromise, all through opposed the revolutionary line from within the mass movements in the past, when they were in opposition, but now when they are in government they are opposing the mass struggle openly in a blatant manner with all the coercive instruments at their disposal. But our party carrying the banner of struggle and revolution has taken the initiative single handedly to organise mass movements throughout the entire

country. The unprecedented response from the people on 15th June signifies their urge for struggle as also the correctness of the leadership of our party. The movement could not be stopped by the savage repression let loose by the 'Left Front' Government. It is spreading far and wide not only in our state but throughout the length and breadth of our country. On this day more than 55,000 people have responded to the call of mass violation of law programme in the districts of our state. This is the only positive aspect, the only ray of hope amidst the sickening politics of deception of bourgeois and social democratic parties. People must come forward to strengthen this line of struggle for emancipation.

Comrade Provash Ghosh, member of the West Bengal State Secretariat then spoke. Recalling the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh he said that a nation even if it starves can stand erect against all sorts of oppression and tyranny if it has its moral backbone intact. It is a lesson of history that those who organised a revolutionary change of society reflected higher ethics and culture. Today the bankruptcy of the bourgeois system is nakedly

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Diamond Harbour, 24 Parganas—Police savagely beating a volunteer

AT THE CALL OF OUR PARTY

Mammoth Protest Demonstration in Orissa

Bubaneswar, 8th September '79:

On 7th September last the people of Orissa witnessed in Bhubaneswar the historic mass demonstration biggest ever in recent years against the misrule of the government both at the Centre and in the State. It was part of the state-wide mass movement launched by the Orissa State Committee of our party SUCI, in pursuance of the call of the Central Committee, which started on 16th July last with observance of Demand Day throughout the state and culminated on 7th September in a mass protest demonstration before the secretariat and a mass meeting at the parade ground in Bhubaneswar. Amidst torrential rains nearly ten thousand people joined this historic mass demonstration and nearly fifteen thousand people from all walks of life attended this massive gathering in the state capital.

This programme of mass protest demonstration on 7th September was organised in protest against the misrule of the governments at the Centre and in the state against spiralling prices of essential commodities, acute unemployment problem and other burning problems of people's life arising out of the crisis-ridden capitalist system and its exploitation. People of Orissa gave vent to their deep feelings against oppression and exploitation and most enthusiastically participated in the programme of this movement. Thousands of the poor peasants, agricultural workers, students and youths and other sections of the toiling masses from different districts of the state came to join the mass rally even trekking miles after miles. Peasants came defying all odds, even keeping aside urgent need of attending their work in the fields at the

start of long cherished monsoon after a dreadful drought throughout the state. Thousands of workers came. Students came from schools and colleges and all the universities of the state. They all came at the call of movement given by their beloved party. They came to raise their voice of protest against injustice, tyranny, exploitation and growing miseries of life.

From early morning big and small processions decorated with red banners and festoons came all through the day to assemble in a big one—ten thousand strong. The huge colourful procession marched through the main thoroughfares of the city. Marchers raised slogans with clenched fists in their bold marching steps. Passersby and onlookers at the house tops greeted them with admiration. People on the streets greatly enthused with the

fervour of the procession joined in. The demonstration approached the Secretariat Buildings. Police officers with huge contingent of forces, armed and some in plane dresses, tried to resist but failed to stop the stream of procession. The procession made its way, advanced boldly but disciplined and reached its destination.

A delegation met with the Chief Minister and submitted a memorandum signed by thousands of people of the state demanding among others controlling of price hike of essential commodities, land to the landless peasants, permanent arrangement for controlling flood and drought in the state, employment to all, education to all etc.

After the deputation a mass meeting was held at the Parade Ground at about 4-30 P.M. In spite of heavy downpour nearly fifteen thousand people attended the meeting. At the meeting place a book-stall and an exhibition of photographs of the 15th June massacre perpetrated by the 'Left Front' Government in Calcutta were organised. People of Orissa with deep indignation and hatred witnessed on this occasion the marks of barbarity and patently anti-people acts of the 'Left Front' Government for nakedly suppressing people's legi-

timate movements in West Bengal.

Comrade Bishnupada Das, one of the important organisers of SUCI in Orissa presided over the meeting and Comrade Tapas Dutta, Secretary Orissa State Committee of SUCI and an eminent mass leader of Orissa delivered the main speech. Comrades Dwarika Nath Ratha, Chitta Behra, Mayadhar Nayak and Nabakisore Routh also spoke.

Comrade Tapas Dutta, the main speaker of the meeting while analysing the present political situation of the country pointed out that the crisis at the Centre is, in reality, no fight between democracy and authoritarianism nor is it any struggle between secularism and communalism at all as the bourgeois parties like Janata, Congress (I), Congress or Janata (S) and the social democrats like CPI, CPI(M) and other so-called left parties are trying to paint. Rather it is nothing but the expression of severe contradictions within the crisis-ridden capitalist class and sheer greed for power of these parties and their leaders, their naked race for a share in governmental gaddi. This is the truth—the whole truth. What is remarkable is that the so-called left parties like CPI, CPI(M) etc. also have joined up these bourgeois parties in their

scramble for power. Thus they have come forward to the rescue of the crisis-ridden ruling capitalist class at a critical hour of their crisis. But, he continued, this political crisis of the ruling bourgeois parties undoubtedly presented before the toiling people and the left parties of the country a golden opportunity to make the best use of it and to develop united and mighty mass movement against the capitalist class and its oppression. Instead of doing it, these parties have engaged themselves in naked tailism of the ruling bourgeois parties.

In such a situation, he pointed out, it is our party SUCI alone guided by the immortal teachings of the great leader of the proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh that stands boldly being free from all such power bickerings, to build up mighty mass movement in the country, to further the cause of people's struggle against the capitalist class and their government. Our Central Committee for this purpose has appealed to all leftist parties in the country to shun this politics of opportunism and come forward to form a genuine left and democratic front for building up united mass movement.

But, Comrade Dutta reminded, people need not lose heart in this spec-

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Portion of a vast gathering at Parade ground, Bhubaneswar on 7th September

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While elaborating this point, Comrade Banerjee threw light on another important aspect of the recent agitation of the policemen. It was no doubt a fact that the economic condition of the policemen, more particularly of the ill-paid Constabulary, like that of the people was very much worsened under the impact of the acute economic crisis of the country. And the agitation that they launched to realise their legitimate demand in different parts of the country was no doubt unprecedented on their part. But, did the policemen ever feel that their agitation, though it was launched to realise their legitimate demands, did not get the support nor even the sympathy of the people? Did they ever ponder over the underlying reasons for this lackadaisical attitude of the people? The reason was of course not at all difficult to realise. It was a fact that since the imperialist rule the people had been witnessing this so-called custodian of law and order, one of the dependable class organs of the ruling class, to spare no pain to torture and harass the people and suppress their legitimate movement by taking recourse to repressive brutal measures. It was a common experience that all these heinous activities were performed to fulfil the wishes of the party in power i.e. they were dictated not only by the administration but also by the party in power. Even the minimum civilised behaviour and norms that the counter part of this very class organ usually manifested in Western countries were completely absent in our country. So, not to speak of democratising the police force which was long overdue what at least was needed—was the introduction of some suitable reforms within the police code and administration with the idea of developing civil norms and a civilised outlook among the policemen—a thing which one might

expect even from a class organ in a civilised country.

It was a fact that some sections of the leadership of the police men, though in an isolated manner, realised the necessity of democratising the police force and felt that the police men should reflect democratic norm and attitude in their behaviour towards the people. This was no doubt conducive to the growth and preservation of democratic environment in the country. But it was regrettable that this, unlike their economic demands, could not emerge as one of the main issues of their recent all pervading agitation. Because, had it been so, then the people could have realised the legitimacy of this agitation and come forward in its support.

All of us knew that neither the Janata Party nor the Congress would take any step in this direction. But like them the CPI(M) too carefully avoided to take any such endeavour—a thing which was glaringly revealed by their motivated inaction in the question of bringing about suitable reforms to change the undemocratic provisions of Calcutta and Suburban Police Acts. On the contrary, like the bourgeois parties they too preferred to utilise the anti-people, anti-democratic character of this bourgeois class organ, to suppress the legitimate movement of the people.

While highlighting the great historic responsibility devolved upon the SUCI at this critical hour, Comrade Banerjee drew the attention of the meeting to the existing gloomy picture in the socio-economic field of the country. With days passing, the economic crisis were becoming more and more acute. Recession, lock-out and lay-off had become the order of the day. All these had an overall declining effect on production. Spiralling rise of price of all commodities became a general feature. Intensification of capitalist exploitation was causing increased pauperization

of the masses. Already seventy percent people of the country were living below the poverty line. To have a temporary respite from the acute crisis of their economy, the bourgeoisie were taking recourse to various anti-people steps and measures and policies such as increased taxation, anti-people fiscal policy, prohibition on withdrawal of CDS money etc. etc. But, instead of minimising the crisis to any extent these on the contrary like a vicious circle were accentuating the crisis further. They could never resolve the problems, the solution of which lied only in continuous increase of purchasing power and living standard of the people—a thing which could never be achieved within the existing socio-economic structure of capitalism.

Whatever attempt the bourgeoisie might undertake they could never resolve the contradiction existing within them. On the one hand different monopoly houses were active in bolstering up their own groups in the government to dominate over the economy. On the other hand one could not completely deny the role of small and medium capital that was still existing within the economy. In the existing crisis-ridden state of the economy, the contradiction within these forces was bound to be more sharpened—and this would only add further intensity and dimension to the crisis causing more instability to the existing capitalist system.

Such an all pervading crisis-ridden state of the capitalist economy was giving birth to, in the political superstructure, intensive inner conflicts, dissension, factional fights within the bourgeois parties—which ultimately were culminating into the disintegration of the all India bourgeois parties into splinter groups and parties. These splinter regional groups and parties, to serve the ruling bourgeoisie were trying to unite or combine together for going to political power. They might even

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try to emerge as the national party of the bourgeoisie but that too, as it was bound to be followed by the shadow of disintegration would be splitted again into splinter groups and parties, under the impact of the growing acute crisis of their economy.

In this connection Comrade Banerjee drew the attention of the meeting to another important aspect. While giving caution to the people regarding the forces of communalism, parochialism and regionalism that were raising their ugly heads, he remarked that these rabid forces too were adding to disruption and disintegration in the political arena of the country. Since the CPI and CPI(M), like the bourgeois parties namely the Janata Party, Congress etc. had deviated from the path of democratic struggle, they too like the bourgeois parties had to become more and more dependent on the regional, communal and parochial forces for fulfilling their object of going to government power. This was only accentuating the growth of these divisive forces and tendencies within the society thereby adding further intensity and dimension to instability and political crisis in the country.

In this connection, Comrade Banerjee referred to an observation that was made both by the CPI and CPI(M) during the recent political change over at the Centre. During their recent game of choosing side in the bourgeois power politics, they tried to justify their move by claiming that their stand was in conformity with their so-called object of fighting communal forces. But was it not a fact, Comrade Banerjee asked, that the latest political thesis of both these parties assured the regional and communal forces like AIADMK and Akali births in their much cherished left and democratic unity? One might therefore be provoked to ask them, how could one fight against

communalism by allying with regional and communal forces? In fact, Comrade Banerjee added, their 'left and democratic' unity, their so-called fight against communal forces—both were nothing but bluffs to the people—facades to mask highly unprincipled political manoeuvres to secure gains in the existing bourgeois parliamentary system.

Next, Comrade Banerjee drew the attention of the meeting to the idea that was being recently raised in the country regarding the jurisdiction of power of the president in the constitution.

It was a glaring fact that with the accentuation of crisis, the bourgeoisie were more and more taking refuge in naked authoritarianism to protect their moribund capitalism from the wrath of the people.

So, with the object of consolidating ruthless power in their hands, they in the face of growing discontent of the toiling people against their exploitative capitalist system were contemplating on a number of alternative experiments. And these included not only the choosing of their own party and supporting it to power but if necessary, to evolve some new pattern for ruling the country, as well. They tried to introduce two party system—though it had received a temporary set back, they would not give up all their hope to give it a trial again. Even the idea of bringing back Mrs. Gandhi to power was there among them. The CPI(M) which was more and more gaining their confidence was also standing by the wings to sell its idea of 'third alternative' to them. That apart, taking the opportunity of the temporary void that was created following the fall of the Janata government, a group of bourgeois legal experts and intellectuals were found to throw arguments in the air in favour of their idea that

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the President enjoyed the power to temporarily rule over the country by appointing advisers. Once this idea was by and large accepted in the public mind, a t t e m p t might then have been made by them to incorporate some new clause in the constitution for extending the jurisdiction of the power of the President in the line mentioned above, thereby giving birth to the worst type of authoritarian constitutional dictatorship.

Comrade Banerjee, however urged upon the people not to waste time on speculation as to which particular bourgeois leadership would come to power. They must know that whichever bourgeois leadership might come to power, it would not ameliorate their living condition—on the contrary, with days passing on their living condition would become far more worsened.

Comrade Banerjee urged upon them to build up their struggles against the exploitative capitalist system, the struggles which and which alone would one day emancipate them from all their miseries and sufferings.

It was the SUCI, founded and reared by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh which alone was reflecting the correct base political line of the proletariat in the movements of the people that were being organised under its leadership. It was for the first time in the history of the struggle of the toiling masses, that their movements were being built up on the correct base political line of the working class. The 15th of June, ushered in a new phase of movement in the country when the people experienced thousands and thousands of the toiling people participating in a movement qualitatively different from the previous struggles, under the leadership of the SUCI. Movements were also being organised in different states of the country. On

the next 31st August, the people would experience once again a similar movement through-out all the districts of West Bengal.

Comrade Banerjee urged upon all to take note that it was for the first time in the history of our people that the revolutionary leadership was established over their struggles as against the reformist leadership which so long led the struggles and tried to misdirect it in the wrong track. The left movement in the country, thus took a historical turn under the leadership of the SUCI.

So, Comrade Banerjee added, it was high time that those workers of other left parties, who being victims of the anti-SUCI tirade that their leaderships were propagating among them out of fear complex of revolution, were for no reason engaged in anti-SUCI campaign—those workers and cadres if they felt any allegiance to Marxism-Leninism and revolution should ponder whether they would still pursue an anti-SUCI line of politics as dictated by their leadership or come forward to strengthen the struggle that was for the first time developed on the correct base political line of the working class.

Finally Comrade Banerjee urged upon the people to come forward in thousands to join in those movements aimed at protecting their cause against the anti-people policies and activities of the governments serving the interests of the bourgeoisie. And, being engaged in this struggles and out of these struggles they must build up the fighting **people's committees**, which would one day develop as their real instrument of struggle in their ultimate battle against the capitalist class for emancipating the people and the country from all sorts of exploitation and oppression.

In their speeches the main speakers in different meetings held in various States highlighted the

following points among others.

The glorious life of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, our beloved leader, teacher, guide and the founder General Secretary, his invaluable teachings and ideals will not only guide us to lead the revolutionary struggles on our soil but also through ages will illumine the path for emancipation of mankind from the grips and tentacles of exploitation and oppression all the world over. It was only Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, who concretised and elaborated Marxism-Leninism in the Indian context and correctly and scientifically explaining each and every question on national and international field with the Marxian approach, he defended the nobility of communist ideal from all sorts of distortion, deviation and confusion.

Turning to the recent political development at the Centre, the main speakers exhaustively dealt with the concrete political situation arising out of the fall of the Janata Government at the Centre and the subsequent developments and observed that disintegration of the Janata Party into splinter groups and fall of Janata Government as well as newer re-alignment of bourgeois political forces were nothing but reflections of a acute crisis of the Indian capitalist system as such. But wonder of wonders is this, when the all-pervading crisis of capitalism has unfolded a new golden opportunity to develop democratic mass movements for protecting the cause of the toiling people, more so when the people are bursting forth into struggle, by forging a unity of the genuine left and democratic parties and forces, as the only alternative of the people's instrument of struggle, the CPI and the CPI(M) are engaged in a filthy game of bourgeois power politics throwing to the wind the last vestiges of political norm and ethics. People must note that these pseudo-marxist parties who have also engaged themselves in

filthy game of power politics, just for some petty parliamentary gains, are trying to cover up their rank opportunism by painting these squabbles as a so-called fight against authoritarianism and thereby hoodwink the people. So, it is quite evident, not only the branded bourgeois parties, but the pseudo-Marxists like the CPI and the CPI(M) are now in open defence of moribund capitalism. The only course, therefore, left open to the toiling people for their emancipation is to develop militant mass movements on the base-political line of anti-capitalist 'Socialist revolution' under the leadership of the SUCI, the only revolutionary party of the proletariat on our soil. The object of this mass movement, needless to say, is to grow and develop through this process of mass movement, people's own instrument of struggle and political power for the liberation of the society from capitalist bondage and only by achieving this revolutionary objective, can we pay our respectful homage to the great revolutionary leader, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh,

Orissa

The Third Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh was observed at Gourisankar Park in the heart of Cuttack city on 5th August, '79 where Comrade Binapani Dash, Secretary, Cuttack District was in the chair. Comrade Tapas Dutta, Secretary of the Orissa State Committee addressed the meeting as the main speaker.

In Rourkela the meeting held on 12th August at Ambagan Maidan was presided over by Com. Bani Das. Com. Ashutosh Banerji, member of the W. B. state Secretariat was the main speaker.

M. P.

At Jubbulpur the Memorial meeting was held on 5th August at Nagarnigam Putrishala. Comrade Chanchal was in the chair. Com. Adityanath Sharma addressed the meeting as the main speaker.

Assam

Comrade Sukomal Dasgupta, Secretary, W.B. State Committee of the Party addressed the memorial meeting held at Nabin Bardoloi Hall, Gauhati as the main speaker. Com. Siddheswar Sarma, Member of the Assam State Committee of the Party and a veteran trade union leader of the state was in the chair. The meeting was held on 11th August.

Tamil-Nadu

The Madurai District Organising Committee of the Party organised the Memorial meeting on 12th August in the heart of the city of Madurai at South Avenue Moolu Street. Com. Sundaram presided, while Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, an eminent All-India Organiser delivered the main speech.

Rajasthan

Rajasthan Organising Committee of our Party observed the Memorial Meeting at Chiraya (Tahasil Road) on 8th of August last under the Presidentship of Com. Girjeswar. Comrade Gyan Singh Chowdhury, Secretary, Haryana State Committee of the Party was present as the main speaker.

Andhra Pradesh

The Kurnool District Organising Committee observed the occasion at Kurnool Municipal Open Air Theatre on 19th August. Com. Sreenivasarao, the Secretary Kurnool District Organising Committee presided over the meeting. The Main speaker was Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, an All-India Organiser of the Party.

Karnataka

Bangalore City Organising Committee of our Party observed the occasion on 11th of August in the heart of Bangalore.

Comrade Surendra Babu presided over the memorial meeting while Comrade Krishna Chakraborty delivered the main speech.

Haryana

The Haryana State Organising Committee Organised a Memorial

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SIGNIFICANCE OF 31st AUGUST

(Contd. from Page 4)
displayed. The bourgeoisie is banking upon its coercive organs on the one hand and deceptive politics of social democratic forces on the other. They know



Poet Kumudkinkar, editor of 'Chandidas' Magazine Birbhum got severely injured in his left eye by brutal lathi charge of Police at Suri

that if the people are organised on higher ethics and culture, if they retain their logical bent of mind they will severely stand up against this bankrupt social system and overthrow it. That is why they are

the speeches and political stands of CPI(M) leadership with the revolutionary teachings and lessons of the great teachers of the proletariat like Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Tse-tung and Com. Shibdas Ghosh. With high emotion Comrade Ghosh recalled the unique revolutionary life and struggle of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh who with every ounce of his energy built up bit by bit this revolutionary party, SUCI in our soil.

Comrade Ghosh in fine appealed to the people not to give way to despair but to take proper lesson from this political reality and strengthen SUCI the only revolutionary party of the Indian proletariat to hasten the day of their emancipation.

In his brief but moving speech Comrade Manik Mukherjee, member of the West Bengal State Secretariat urged upon the



An old peasant, a volunteer, with serious head injury after police atrocities

trying to kill minimum ethical sense of the people by spreading rotten and decadent culture. And in this bourgeois conspiracy against the people the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' government is also leading its hand by not only not fighting this design but actually encouraging cabaret dance, obscene literature etc.

Comrade Provash Ghosh exposed the revisionist social democratic politics of CPI(M) by contrasting

people not to stand as a helpless onlooker to the politics of treachery of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties but to actively intervene by strengthening SUCI in order to give a revolutionary orientation to their struggles. The revolutionary teachings and lessons of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh are the unfailing guide for their struggle for emancipation. The meeting ended with 'Internationale' sung by DYO Music Squad.

CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT IN ASSAM

OUR PARTY'S STAND

Calcutta 12th Sept. '79 :

In a press release issued from the Central Office of our Party SUCI the following statement has been made :

"Our attention has been drawn to news in certain sections of the press, giving gross misrepresentation of the stand of our Party within the Assembly of Assam vis-a-vis the change in government in the state.

The Statesman and the Kalantar, in the issue of 10th September has stated

under the caption "New Assam Ministry Sworn In" that two SUCI MLA's are supporting the new Hazarika ministry. This is far from truth as will be evident from the statement issued by Comrade Ashit Bhattacharjee, our State Secretary of Assam on 8th September which says :

"...People of Assam are deeply shocked and feel gravely concerned at the virtual return of the Congress (I) and the Congress to governmental power having used the

Janata dissidents, as their appendage, taking the advantage of the internal bickerings and squabbles within the Janata Party for sheer power and the failure of the leading leftist parties to take effective counter measures in time. Under the circumstance, we are opposed to both the contending bourgeois factions and their respective combinations. Our MLA's will not therefore, support either of the contending parties or their combinations."

Protest Demonstration in Orissa

(Contd. from page 5)
tacle of ugly bourgeois and petty bourgeois politics. For, there is SUCI, the genuine communist party in Indian soil taught and guided by the great revolutionary leader of the proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh which is holding high the noble banner of communist ideology, its ethics, culture and morality, showing the path of people's emancipation from all sorts of exploita-

tion of man by man, emancipation from every kind

As the Press will remain closed for the Puja Holidays, our next issue dated 1st October will not come out.

—Ed. P. Era

of social, cultural and political degradation. SUCI

is building up mighty people's movement as a precursor to this ultimate revolutionary struggle of the mass. Comrade Dutta urged upon all to come forward to actively take part in this movement and to build up people's committees in towns and villages, fields and factories as the instrument of political power of the people and thus further the cause of people's emancipation.

Call of 5th August

(Contd. from page 7)
Meeting on 5th August at Rohtak.

Comrade Shankar Singh, a member of the Central Committee of our party was the main speaker.

Dumka

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Meeting was held

at Dumka on 25th August last under the presidency of Comrade Soumitra Banerji. Comrade Amriteswar Chakraborty member of the Bihar State Committee of SUCI was the main speaker.

Bhagalpur

Memorial meeting in

Bhagalpur was held on 2nd September '79. Comrade Sankar Singh, Secretary, Bihar State Committee of SUCI was the main speaker and Comrade Amriteswar Chakraborty took the chair.



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